

--Fig. 8 is a perspective view of another embodiment of the  
tampon applicator of Fig. 1 having a concave fingergrip area  
according to the present invention;--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 13 on page 7  
~~of the specification~~ with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Fig. 9 is a perspective view of another embodiment of the  
tampon applicator of Fig. 1 having a convex fingergrip area  
according to the present invention;--

On page 7 of the specification at line 16, please insert  
the following paragraphs:

--Fig. 10 is a perspective view of the tampon applicator of  
Fig. 9 with gripping structures according to an embodiment of  
the present invention;

Fig. 11 is a perspective view of the tampon applicator of  
Fig. 4 with an odd number of convex surfaces according to an  
embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 12 is a perspective view of the tampon applicator of  
Fig. 5 with convex surfaces according to an embodiment of the

present invention;

*a1* Fig. 13 is a perspective view of the tampon applicator of Fig. 8 with gripping structures according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 14 is a perspective view of the tampon applicator of Fig. 4 with an odd number of concave surfaces according to an embodiment of the present invention; and

Fig. 15 is a perspective view of the tampon applicator of Fig. 5 with concave surfaces according to an embodiment of the present invention.--

---

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 10 on page 12 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

---

--In an alternative embodiment of the applicator of Figs. 1 through 5 of the present invention, at least one, and more preferably a plurality, of gripping structures are disposed on the surfaces 30. While these alternative embodiments are discussed below with respect to Fig. 1, they can be equally applied to the fingergrip area of Figs. 2 through 5, 8 and 9. Examples of such are depicted in Figs. 10 and 13.--